

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1087  
By Shepard

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Marvin Osco "M.O." and Patricia Shepard on the celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, since that fateful day when Marvin Osco "M.O." Shepard and Patricia Thomson were joined in holy matrimony, this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Shepard have been highly respected citizens of the Dickson community for many years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, M.O. Shepard of Vernon, Tennessee, and Patricia Thomson of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, met at a USO dance on September 26, 1944; M.O. was serving in the United States Navy, and the submarine to which he was assigned was docked across the harbor from Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, upon the occasion of their first meeting, M.O. asked Pat if she could name the Capitol of Tennessee, correcting her when she answered, "Memphis"; he then spent the evening telling this lovely girl from New England about Tennessee, ultimately escorting her home and revealing his romantic intentions; and

WHEREAS, a true patriot, M.O. Shepard served on a Navy submarine during World War II; as the submarine happened to return to the naval shipyard near Portsmouth when not at sea, M.O. and Pat were happy to continue their wartime courtship; and

WHEREAS, Pat's family liked the "Southern sailor boy" and M.O. enjoyed Mrs. Thomson's cooking, as well as teasing Pat about life on the farm down South, complete with

“hillbillies” who didn’t wear shoes; on December 15, 1945, when Pat visited M.O. on his submarine in Philadelphia, M.O. presented her with an engagement ring, and they were married on May 8, 1946; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Shepard moved South to Knoxville after the end of World War II, and M.O. entered the University of Tennessee to complete his bachelor’s degree in Agriculture; they then moved to Hickman County, where M.O. taught Vocational Agriculture at the Hickman County High School, and Pat’s New England accent sparked a friendly interest, making her a popular addition to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Shepard welcomed their first child, David, in October of 1947, and two years later they moved to Dickson County, where M.O. took a position as Assistant County Agricultural Agent with the University of Tennessee Extension Service; and

WHEREAS, M.O. and Pat Shepard were blessed with six children: David, Randy, Dennis, Rick, Donna, and Susan; as parents, they are proud of the fact that all six children have college degrees, and all have excelled in their particular fields of endeavor; and

WHEREAS, M.O. took a well earned retirement from the position of County Agricultural Agent after forty-two years of exemplary service; the Shepards both love to travel and spend time with their seven grandchildren, spending the winters in Key Largo, Florida, and summer days at their lake house in Winchester, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, for sixty years this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; both enjoy good health, and are most thankful for the wonderful life they have built together; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Shepards’ are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Marvin Osco and Patricia Shepard upon the celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.